



RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY

Statement of the Radiological Society of Connecticut
Insurance and Real Estate Committee
House Bill 5832
February 17, 2015

Sen. Crisco, Rep. Megna and members of the committee:

The Radiological Society of Connecticut is a professional association of over 520 practicing radiologists in the state as well as retired professionals and resident members. We are supportive of House Bill 5832, *An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage for Tomosynthesis for Breast Cancer Screenings*.

The bill would add breast tomosynthesis to tests that are available to women who have dense breast tissue or are at higher risk for breast cancer due to family history or prior personal history with the disease, positive genetic testing or other factors as determined by the women's physician. State regulated individual and group health insurance plans would be required to cover the test.

The American College of Radiology (ACR) has had extensive study of the literature relating to breast tomosynthesis and, last year, adopted a policy paper in support of its use.

Breast tomosynthesis has shown to have higher cancer detection rates and fewer patient recalls for additional testing. The medical community has long sought ways to improve breast cancer screening accuracy. Better sensitivity will likely translate into more lives saved while lower recall rates result in fewer patients who may experience short-term anxiety awaiting test results.

To facilitate large scale outcome data collection, the technology must be widely available. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is covering beneficiaries for breast tomosynthesis and they have urged private payers to do the same.

At this point it is fair to say breast tomosynthesis is no longer investigational. Tomosynthesis has been shown to improve key screening parameters compared to digital mammography.

For these reasons, the Radiological Society of Connecticut supports House Bill 5832, which will cover breast tomosynthesis in many insurance plans in the state.